

AP/2863

Patent Application

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE****CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

Applicant: John R. Kochan, Jr.

Serial No.: 09/714,385

Filed: November 16, 2000

Title: Flow Rate Calculation  
System

Group Art: 2863

Examiner: Vo, Hien Xuan

Docket No.: MET-P-0121 (8367-86196)

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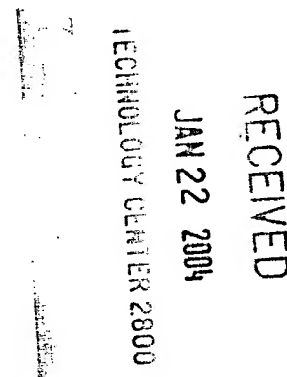
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(Date)

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313

Sir:



Applicant has carefully studied the outstanding non-final Office Action mailed November 24, 2003 with a shortened three month response interval. As described below, the rejections of the pending claims 1-32, 34-40, as obvious and unpatentable over Wissenbach et al. are defective and should be withdrawn.

We first note that embodiments of the claimed invention are fluid estimating devices. An expected flow rate can be entered, for example, using a keyboard. Pump on/off signals provide time durations during which fluid at the expected rate, for example, gallons per minute, is being pumped. An estimated volume of pumped fluid can be arrived at by multiplying the interval or intervals during which the pump is energized by the previously entered expected flow rate.